

retention efforts to enhance participants' experiences and to increase the likelihood of success in undergraduate, graduate, or professional training.

The application presented a five year plan at a direct cost of \$1,443,848. It was reviewed on December 9 and 10, 2013.

(2/2014 update: The summary statement was received by Dr. Chaparro. The application was scored a "4," which puts it in the "very good" range. It is not expected that the application will be funded in view of the stringency of funding at the federal level. Therefore, the plan is to revise the application, address the concerns, and resubmit for the October 2014 deadline.)

(Internal) Opportunities for Undergraduate Student Participation in Aging Research

The Regional

Work was initiated on a pre/posttest questionnaire with the goal of capturing information on implementation of the Toolkit in senior centers, churches, other public venues and by K State Research and Extension agents. The questionnaire must be very short because of the time constraints of those implementing the Toolkit in small town and rural settings. We then plan to develop a means for those data to be submitted via the Regional Institute on Aging website for aggregation and analysis, so we can gain a better understanding of the use of the instrument across the state.

settings, finalizing the pre/posttest questionnaire and developing an online portal for collecting information about Toolkit use.

A special effort will be un

Older Adult Pet Adoption Program! (OAPA!)

This collaborative community based research program with Prairie View, Inc., Caring Hands, Harvey County Department on Aging, and the Regional Institute

Internal Advisory Committee, KSU/WSU, COBRE, “Cognitive and Neurobiological Approaches to Plasticity,” (C-NAP), submitted 2/14.

The Regional Institute on Aging collaborated with Exploration Place and the Central Plains Area Agency on Aging to create an exhibit on “10 Steps to a Healthy Aging Brain” (based on material from the Alliance for Aging Research) for the Mindbender Mansion exhibit, Exploration Place, fall 2013.

The Director served as a member of a search committee for the Bioengineering Program, College of Engineering.

In 2012, “Changing the Conversation” a cooperative project of the Kansas Sampler Foundation and the Regional Institute on Aging was launched. Kansas is a state of many natural resources. It is home to hardworking industrious people. However, one “natural resource” has not been tapped to its fullest potential nor have the continuing contributions of this “natural resource” been widely heralded. The resource is older Kansans.

The website highlights stories of older people who have quietly, with little fanfare, made a difference in their communities and in our state. These are not the 'usually visible' people, but regular people leading regular lives, while making important differences and continuing to enrich the lives of the people and communities around them. In 2013, three new stories were added to the website: Linda Laird, the Lindquists and Ralph Vogel.

Collaboration with University of Kansas Medical School-Wichita.

Wichita Women in Science:

Wichita Women in Science continued largely unchanged from the description provided in the Annual Report 2012. The purpose of Wichita Women in Science (WWiS) is to provide a neutral forum for women scientists, clinical investigators and senior science administrators to meet and establish relationships which then serve as the foundation for building new research collaborations. WWiS is an informal organization. The group meets monthly. The mailing list currently contains approximately 80 names and adds new names monthly. While not focused exclusively on aging, WWiS has proved a very effective, inexpensive networking tool for the region. It has also proved very useful for distributing information via its email list.

WWiS was created in 2010 by the Director, RIA, and the Associate Dean for Research, KU School of Medicine- Wichita.

